

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

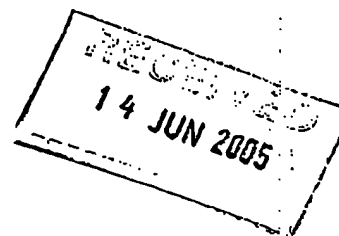
From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCTINFORMATION CONCERNING ELECTED
OFFICES NOTIFIED OF THEIR ELECTION

(PCT Article 31(7) and Rule 61.3)

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Date of mailing (day/month/year) 09 June 2005 (09.06.2005)		IMPORTANT INFORMATION	
Applicant's or agent's file reference P185			
International application No. PCT/IB2004/002309	International filing date (day/month/year) 16 July 2004 (16.07.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 16 July 2003 (16.07.2003)	
Applicant MICHIDA, Taizo			

- The applicant is hereby informed that the International Bureau has, according to Article 31(7), notified each of the following Offices of its election:
EP: AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR
National: BG, CA, CN, CZ, DE, JP, KP, KR, MN, NO, PL, RO, RU, SK, US
- The following Offices have waived the requirement for the notification of their election; the notification will be sent to them by the International Bureau only upon their request:
AP: BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW
EA: AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM
OA: BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG
National: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CH, CO, CR, CU, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PT, SC, SD, SE, SG, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW
- Since the election(s) was (were) made after the expiration of 19 months from the priority date, the applicant is reminded that he must, subject to the following paragraph, enter the national phase within 20 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) before some of the designated Offices in respect of which Article 22(1), as modified with effect of 1 April 2002, does not apply, by paying the national fee(s) and furnishing, if prescribed, a translation of the international application.

However, in respect of most other designated Offices, the time limit of 30 months (or later) may nevertheless apply. See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Volume II, National Chapters, the *PCT Newsletter* and the WIPO Internet site, updated regularly.

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PRELIMINARY
AMENDMENT

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AP20 Rec'd PGT/PTO 13 JAN 2006
CLAIMS

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1. Alert apparatus for providing an alert indication directed to a user thereof; the apparatus being incorporated into or being for attachment to fastener equipment for 5 securing an item, wherein said apparatus comprises:

first and second elements, which are moveable together and apart, the item being in a secure position when the first and second elements are together, and at least one of said elements including a bell having a clapper or ball for 10 providing an alert indication directed to the user when the element is moved;

wherein movement of said clapper or ball is suppressed whenever the first and second elements are at or adjacent one another thereby suppressing the alert indication.

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2. Alert apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the fastener equipment is for securing an aperture in an item closed, and said first and second elements are moveable together for closing the aperture and moveable apart for opening the 20 aperture.

3. Alert apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the fastener equipment is for securing first and second members together, and said first and second elements are moveable together for 25 attaching said first and second members and moveable apart for detaching said first and second members.

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4. Alert apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said elements has magnetic means for suppressing said alert indication by means of magnetic force.

5 5. Alert apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said elements has mechanical means for suppressing said alert indication by means of mechanical action.

6. Alert apparatus according to claim 1, wherein both said
10 elements are arranged to provide an alert indication.

7. Alert apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said elements can be connected together by means of a magnetic force.

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8. Alert apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said elements can be connected together by means of a surface fastener or a buckle.

20 9. Alert apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said elements is connectable to a slider of a slide fastener that is incorporated in a wearable or portable item.

10. Alert apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said first
25 element is connectable to a first slider, and said second element is connectable to a second slider.

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11. Alert apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first element is connectable to a slider of a slide fastener that is incorporated in a wearable or portable item, and said second element can be disposed on said wearable or portable item in a fixed position relative to said item.

12. Alert apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said slide fastener is a zip fastener.

10 13. Alert apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said item is a portable item or a wearable item.

14. Alert apparatus for providing an alert indication directed to a user thereof; the apparatus being incorporated into or being for attachment to fastener equipment for closing an aperture in an item, wherein said apparatus comprises:

first and second elements, which are moveable together for closing said aperture and apart for opening said aperture, and at least one of said elements including a bell having a clapper or ball for providing an alert indication directed to the user when the element is moved;

wherein movement of said clapper or ball is suppressed whenever the first and second elements are at or adjacent one another thereby suppressing the alert indication.

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